Titles of Periodicals and Newspapers

700. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the titles of newspapers and periodicals, that are not published for years, are blocked by the Registrar of Newspapers of India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government would make list of the registered titles public for the purpose to transparency?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) A title allotted to a publisher but not registered is blocked in his favour for two years. If the allottee does not bring out the publication and get his title registered within the given period, the title gets deblocked and is available for another Applicant.

(c) Yes, Sir. The registered titles are available on RNI's website and are updated regularly.

Publication of advertisements in Newspapers

701. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the existing Government's norms/instructions on publication of Government's advertisements in newspapers including the publication of VVIP photos;

(b) whether in case of any violation of the existing instructions, the action is being taken by Government;

(c) whether any such violation has been brought to Government's notice during the last ten years; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) is the nodal agency for release of Government advertisements to the newspapers empanelled with it. The advertisements are issued to the newspapers in accordance with the Advertising Policy of the Government of India and the Guidelines for Empanelment of Newspapers with DAVP. There are no Government norms/instructions for publication of VVIP photographs. However, the Prime Minister has instructed in June, 2004 that his photograph need not be inserted in the advertisements issued by